

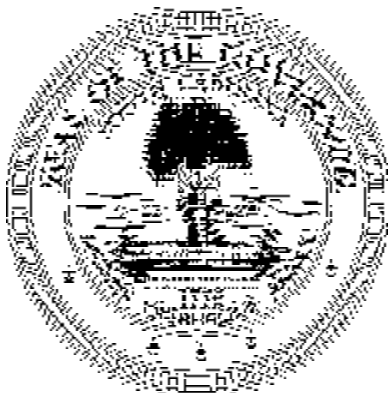
State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** breastfeeding promotes early maternal and infant bonding and encourages the development of communication skills between mother and child which help build trust and a sense of security; and
- WHEREAS,** breastfeeding is an important component of infant nutrition, contributing significantly to early health, growth and development by providing babies with an ideal balance of nutrients and a high degree of natural immunity against infection and allergies; and
- WHEREAS,** the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and other health care professionals and organizations recognize breastfeeding as a preferred method of feeding for a majority of infants; and
- WHEREAS,** research shows that breastfed babies have fewer ear and gastrointestinal infections and are less likely to develop respiratory infections, childhood diabetes, and childhood lymphoma; and
- WHEREAS,** women who breastfeed reduce their chances of developing pre-menopausal breast cancer, cervical cancer, osteoporosis and iron deficiency anemia; and
- WHEREAS,** the annual observance of World Breastfeeding Week calls attention to the positive impact of breastfeeding on infant and maternal health and well-being.
- NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim August 1 - 7, 2003, as

BREASTFEEDING WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the many benefits of breastfeeding for mothers and infants throughout the Palmetto State.



A stylized, handwritten signature of Mark Sanford.

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MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA